

OFFICE OF THE

Board of Health

13 EAST CENTRAL STREET
NATICK, MASSACHUSETTS 01760

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Anthony G. Capobianco, M.D.,
Physician to the Board
Roger J. Wade, M.S.P.H.,
Director of Public Health

Phone - 508-647-6460
Fax - 508-647-6466

The Natick Board of Health wants you to have

Healthy Lawns without Pesticides

PESTICIDES MAY NOT BE SAFE AND MAY HARM CHILDREN

Pesticides may cause cancer, birth defects, immune system problems, neurological disorders or childhood leukemia.

Pesticides may contaminate drinking water.

Pesticides may kill healthy microbes in the soil and kill beneficial insects

Chemical fertilizers and pesticides may have up to 98% "inert materials" that may not be labeled or reviewed by the EPA.

USE COMMON SENSE ALTERNATIVES

For less toxic alternatives try corn gluten for weeds, milky spore for grubs and organic fertilizer, whether applied by homeowners or professional landscapers.

Organic products cause less stress on lawns and will better tolerate local water bans.

FOR HEALTHY LAWNS

Keep grass 3" high and leave grass clippings on lawns

Water deep and less often ---- 1" water once/week

Keep pH 6.5-7.0 and high in organic matter

Mow with sharp blades to reduce lawn damage

Be advised that sewage sludge fertilizers may contain harmful contaminants

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.infotech-maine.com/natickma/health.html>

<http://ma.nofa.org/>

www.ci.wellesley.ma.us/nrc/pesticide

www.greendecade.org

FOR BROCHURES AND PRODUCT INFORMATION

Free brochures at Natick Libraries, Natick Community Farm, Windy Lo Nursery

Organic lawn care products are sold at Windy Lo Nursery in Natick, Needham Garden Center,

Russell's Garden Center in Wayland

**Schools are required by the Families and Protection Act to reduce pesticides.
Families should be responsible too.**

This brochure is funded by grants from Toxics Use Reduction Institute and the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund for the Pesticide Reduction Campaign.